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PRESS RELEASE

This Press Release is embargoed until the public release of the data on December 27th, 2007

The U. S. Bureau of the Census 2007 state population estimate shows Colorado's July 1, 2007 population to be **4,861,515**. This population represents a **95,267** or **2.0%** increase from a revised July 1, 2006 estimate of 4,766,248. The state's April 1, 2000 revised census count was **4,302,019**.

Colorado's **2.0** percent growth rate for this twelve-month period ranks ***eighth***. The fastest growing states for the year were: Nevada (2.9%), Arizona (2.8%), Utah (2.6%), Idaho (2.4%), and Georgia (2.2 %). Colorado ranks eighth in percentage growth over the seven-year period since the census in 2000 and tenth in numeric growth.

Since Census 2000, the West, followed closely by the South, was the fastest growing region of the country, growing overall at **10.9%**, compared to the U.S. at **7.2%**. Between 2006 and 2007 the South grew slightly faster than the West **1.43** vs. **1.38**.

The growth rate of **2.0%** over the year for Colorado is about the same as it was from 2005 to 2006. Colorado is expected to grow at about the same rate in the coming year.

The U. S. Bureau of the Census estimates that of Colorado's 95,267 increase in population, 43,446 was due to natural increase (births minus deaths) and that 51,819 of this was due to net migration. Thirty-five percent of the net in-migration is estimated to be from net international migration and the remaining sixty-five percent from net domestic migration. Net migration was about the same as it was last year and is expected to remain similar for the coming year.

The Census Bureau estimates for 2007 and revisions from 2001-2006 include methodology changes which lowered international migration estimates by a cumulative 600,000 for the US. Also, changes from returns-based to person-based IRS migration methodology uses more detailed and accurate data for domestic migration estimates which has no effect on the national estimate but does effect state and county migration estimates and have increased Colorado's estimates by around a cumulative 13,000 since 2001